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**APPLICATION NUMBER: 60/439,425** 

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## PRIORITY DOCUMENT

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# SYSTEM FOR CONTROLLED RELEASE OF CEMENT MIXTURE FROM A SUSPENDED BUCKET

#### FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to handling and utilization of cement buckets suspended from cranes.

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#### **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

Concrete buckets suspended from cranes are used to distribute flowable concrete into pre – formed forms of a building project. Several operators are needed to direct the bucket to a convenient position above the form, to release the concrete from the bucket and to distribute discharged concrete. Pouring concrete efficiently and safely from suspended concrete buckets is a crucial task in a building project.

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#### **DESCRIPTION OF THE PRESENT INVENTION**

In accordance with the present invention, cement is released gravitationally from a suspended cement bucket by the opening of a shutter at the bottom of the bucket. Opening of the bucket outlet is performed by an operator pulling a rope, the length of which is not limited. To explain the mechanism of the release of cement, reference is made now to Fig. 1. To bucket 10 is appended a construction frame 12. A hose 14 at the bottom of the bucket 10 receives the concrete when shutter 16 is opened. In the figure the shutter is partially opened, showing the aperture 18. Handle 20 is pulled by an operator (not shown) through manipulation of the rope 22. Spring 24 biases the handle 20 and the shutter 16 towards the bucket 10. A second operator manipulates the flexible hose 14, when the shutter is opened, for distributing the flowing concrete. This can however be done by the same operator opening the shutter. In Fig. 2 the handle 20 has been released by the operator, by loosening the rope 22. The spring 24 has contracted shutting off the shutter 16. Concrete can no longer flow of the bucket 10.

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The main structural features of a shutter of the invention are shown in Fig. 3. Shutter 40 is slidable by wheels 42 attached at its both flanks (only the wheels at one flank are shown). The wheels roll on rails 44. In Fig. 4 the shutter is shown opened, revealing hose flange 50 of the hose described above. At this state, concrete pouring down from the concrete bucket in the direction of arrow 52 can flow downwards through the hose. The shutter 40 closes by pushing in the direction of arrow 54.

#### **CLAIM**

A suspended concrete bucket comprising a bottom shutter for releasing flowable concrete gravitationally, and wherein said shutter is opened by an operator pulling a rope, and wherein said shutter is biased towards a closed position by a spring.

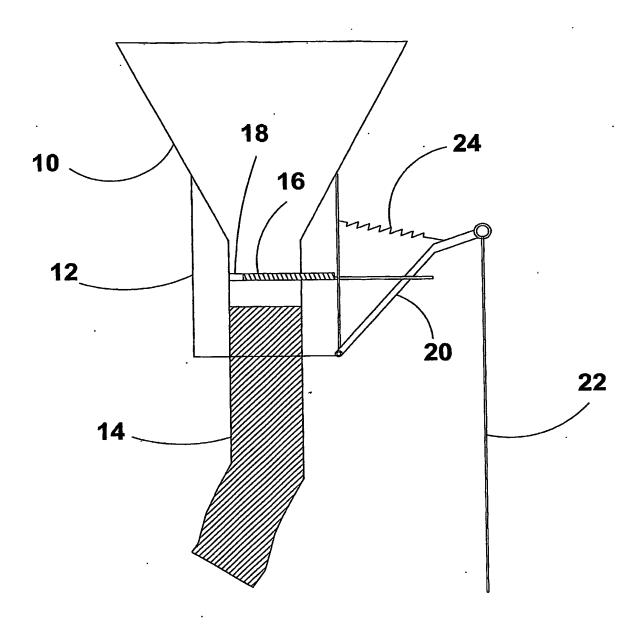


Fig. 1

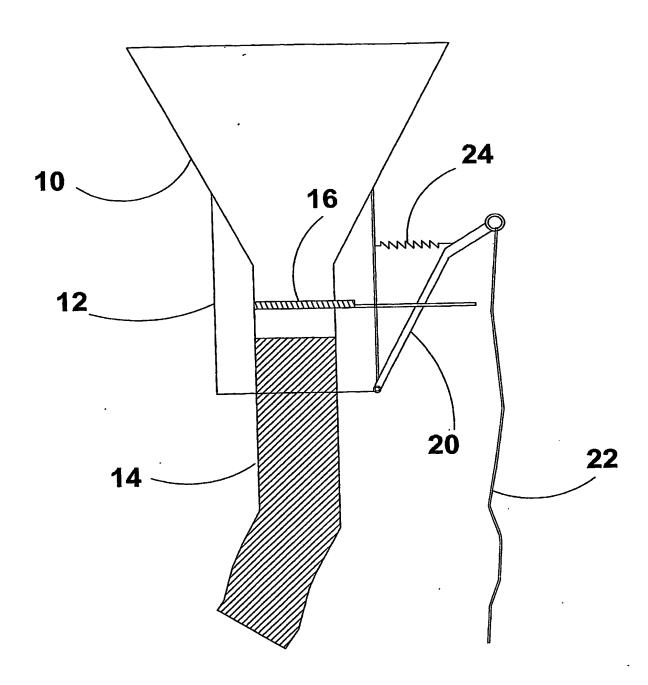


Fig. 2

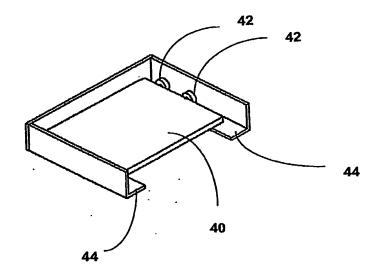


Fig. 3

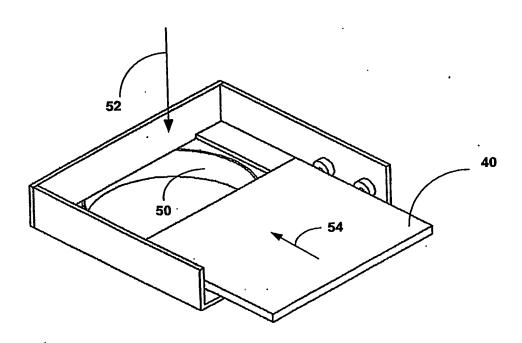


Fig. 4